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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

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SUBJECT: East German Ministry for Foreign Affairs (C) - (Berlin Access)

The following quoted report concerning certain plans and thinking presently occurring in the East German Ministry for Foreign Affairs has been made available to this office by G-2, USAREUR:

"At present all elements of the subject ministry are studying and analyzing the recent Soviet peace treaty proposal. The greatest unclarity at the moment within the ministry concerns the question of what debts East Germany must pay under the stipulations of the proposed treaty.

"It is believed in the ministry that a conference on the German question will take place, and that the six months period stipulated in their 27 November note for Berlin turnover will be extended three or four months, but eventual turnover is certain. Work on details of the turnover has been suspended, presumably because the priority placed on the peace treaty.

"The Allied Travel Office in West Berlin is a source of annoyance, and must be one of the problems handled in connection with the treaty. The most recent irritation was the arrest by West Berlin police of an unidentified employee of an East German Trade Agency. He was arrested on a charge of participation in a kidnapping when he appeared at the ATO office to pick up a visa.

"Ministry officials believe that in the event of the failure to reach an agreement at a peace conference, the USSR and the Satellites will not make a separate peace treaty with East Germany. To do so would leave untouched the question of suppressing West German rearming, which is the principal aim of the proposed negotiations.

"It is expected that the Soviets will propose participation of both West and East German delegations in a four-power conference. It is not expected that new plans for a peace treaty and on the Berlin question will take place during the current visit of Ulbricht and Grotewohl in Moscow."

In making the above report available, it was stated that the information had been obtained from a reliable source, who in turn secured it from a well-placed sub-source.

DAEflinn/ch
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Dennis A. Flinn
Dennis A. Flinn
Political Adviser

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